



Cutting Your Own Christmas Tree on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests 2012

Visit us at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug>

Permit Information

Sales:

- Permits are \$8.00 per tree - limit 5 trees per household – for personal use only and not for resale – all sales are final and non-refundable.

Sale Dates:

- November 13 - December 31, 2012 – offices are closed on observed holidays (Nov 22 and Dec 25).

Sale Times:

- During posted business hours – 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Expiration Date:

- Permits expire at midnight on December 31, 2012.

Species:

- Subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, Lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine, Pinyon pine, Juniper - *local species cutting restrictions may apply - ask at local district offices.*

Permit Regulations

Cutting Regulations:

- This permit only authorizes the cutting of trees 6 inches (or less) in trunk diameter, measured at 6 inches above ground level – please ensure that all live limbs attached to cut stump have been cut off to prevent re-growth.
- *Topping* of trees is not allowed (i.e. cutting only the top of tree and leaving the bottom with live limbs attached).
- Tag tree(s) before leaving the cutting area - wrap tag around a large sturdy lower limb or tree trunk – each tag has adhesive on backside to ensure firm grip.
- Permits must be clearly visible on trees when transporting by vehicle.

Area Regulations:

- Cutting is permitted only on National Forest System lands.
- Respect private property rights and watch for no trespassing signs – know where you are before you cut.
- CUTTING RECOMMENDED – Within powerline corridors, fuels treatment areas, densely tree stocked areas – *attached maps show other recommended cutting areas – ask at local district offices for other suitable areas.*
- CUTTING PROHIBITED – Within administrative sites, picnic areas, campgrounds, trailheads, scenic pullouts, tree plantations, wilderness areas, other areas signed on ground or mapped as “Closed to Christmas Tree Cutting” – *attached maps show other prohibited cutting areas.*
- Pack out your trash.

Special Regulations:

- See Attachment #1 for special district regulations and Christmas Tree Cutting maps.

Travel Regulations:

- All Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest Travel Plan Management Restrictions apply - *obtain maps at Forest Service Offices listed below.*
- Keep to *designated routes that are open to vehicular traffic.*
- Do not drive on designated and groomed snowmobile trails - designated routes are closed when there is sufficient snow to maintain trail grooming with snow equipment.
- Park in a safe location and out of traffic path.

Recommendations:

- Call a district office for local road conditions, weather and travel advisory information.
- Four-wheel drive vehicle or chains.
- Full tank of gas.
- Handsaw, axe, shovel for digging snow.
- Tarp, rope or tie-downs.
- Dress appropriately for winter weather.
- Sled, snowshoes are advisable at higher elevations.
- First-aid kit, food, extra water, blanket, warm liquids.

Where to Obtain Permits: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, & Gunnison National Forest Offices:

Business Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday, closed on observed holidays (Nov 22 and Dec 25).

- Forest Supervisor’s Office - 2250 Hwy 50, Delta, CO: 970-874-6600
- Norwood District, 1150 Forest St., Norwood, CO: 970-327-4261
- Ouray District, 2505 S. Townsend, Montrose, CO: 970-240-5400
- Grand Valley District, 2777 Crossroads Blvd, Grand Jct, CO: 970-242-8211
- Gunnison District, 216 N. Colorado, Gunnison, CO: 970-641-0471
- Paonia District, 403 N. Rio Grande Ave, Paonia, CO: 970-527-4131

Christmas tree permits may also be obtained at the following cooperating vendors:

Business Hours: times may vary, please call ahead

- Ol' Grand Mesa Corner Market – Hwy 65 Mesa, CO
 - 970/268-5484
 - Mon 11am – 6pm
 - Wed-Sat 7am-7pm
 - Sun 8am – 6pm

- The Creamery - 2117 Rodeo Road, Collbran, CO
 - 970/487-3511
 - Weekdays 6am-7pm
 - Sat 7am-7pm
 - Sun 7am-5pm

- Valley Ranch – 54454 US Hwy 330, Collbran, CO
 - 970/487-3000
 - Weekdays 6am – 6pm
 - Sat 7am – 3pm
 - Sun 8am – 2pm

The Christmas Tree program is a Recreation Enhancement Act project. Funds collected are retained on the Forest for management of the Christmas Tree program.